CLAIMS:

1.   A system for reading data from a document, the system comprising
-       at least one computer with indicator and input means for operation by a user,
-       means for accessing at least one document, and
-       program means by which at least one first input by a user is processed and
5   with which a data range of the document to be read is fixed,
-       wherein the program means automatically create an extract instruction for
reading the fixed data range, so that the fixed data range of the document is read when the
extract instruction is executed.

10 2.   A system as claimed in claim 1, wherein
-       the program means also process a second input by the user, with which at least
one structural range of the document is fixed, which is used when fixing the data range,
-       the extract instruction created by the program means comprises an address
indication corresponding to the second input.

15

3.   A system as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein
-       a grammar is predetermined for the extract instruction,
-       the grammar comprises at least one absolute address indication and at least
one relative address indication.

20

4.   A system as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein
-       when creating the extract instruction, a plurality of valid extract instructions of
a predetermined grammar is generated, and
-       this extract instruction is checked on whether the desired data range of the
25 document is read when said instruction is executed,
-       an extract instruction is selected from the extract instructions upon whose
execution the desired data range of the document is read.

5.   A system as claimed in claim 4, wherein the extract instruction is selected in accordance with a complexity criterion.

6.   A system as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein

5   -   the computer accesses a plurality of documents,

-    wherein one or more extract instructions are checked on how many documents contain the range of data desired by the user when said extract instructions are executed.

7.   A system as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein the computer

10   is connected to a computer network so that it can access documents via the computer network.

8.   A system as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein means for storing the extract instruction are created.

15

9.   A method of reading data from a document, wherein

-    on at least one computer with indicator and input means for operation by a user and means for accessing a document,

-    program means are executed by which at least one first input by the user is

20   processed and with which a data range of the document to be read is fixed,

-    wherein the program means automatically create an extract instruction for reading the fixed data range, so that the fixed data range of the document is read when the extract instruction is executed.

25   10.   A method of acquiring data, wherein

-    an extract instruction is created by means of the method as claimed in claim 9, and

-    the extract instruction is stored, and

-    the extract instruction is iterated after time intervals.